

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

Jack Dalrymple Governor Wayne Stenehjem Attorney General Doug Goehring Agriculture Commissioner

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State to offer loans to political subdivisions impacted by weather

Bismarck – The North Dakota Public Finance Authority (PFA) has partnered with Bank of North Dakota (BND) to offer low-interest, disaster loans to political subdivisions impacted by 2011 weather and flooding.

"Local political subdivisions have contacted my office requesting low-interest loans to help them cash flow the unanticipated costs they are incurring in 2011," said Gov. Jack Dalrymple. "I requested and we have received presidential disaster declarations but often the funding resulting from those declarations can take some time in being received. This loan program can provide a cash flow bridge until federal funds are finally available."

Through its Capital Financing Program, the PFA will consider applications from any political subdivision in counties that received a presidential disaster declaration or a gubernatorial executive order or proclamation of a state disaster or emergency.

"This is a tool we hope will be helpful to our political subdivisions as they deal with the many challenges brought on by the weather-related events of 2011," said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem.

The PFA financing can provide short-term funding for a political subdivision while the entity is waiting for reimbursement from the federal or state government or provide cash flow financing until sufficient tax revenues have been received to meet the local match requirements.

"By working with the state bank, the authority can offer a low-interest floating rate to political subdivisions which in turn reduces costs to North Dakotans," said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring.

This special disaster assistance financing is being offered until Dec. 31, 2011. More information about the program can be obtained by contacting the PFA at 701-328-7100.

The PFA was established to make loans to political subdivisions of the state through the purchase of municipal securities. Subject to credit and program requirements, the PFA can lend money to a political subdivision for any purpose for which the political subdivision has the legal authority to borrow money through the issuance of municipal securities. State law allows the PFA to purchase qualified small issue bonds and to issue industrial development bonds covered under the Municipal Industrial Development Act.

The Industrial Commission of North Dakota, consisting of Gov. Jack Dalrymple, as chairman, Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring, oversees the PFA.

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FURTHER INFORMATION: DeAnn Ament (701) 426-5723